NWS GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO

A LOOK BACK AT WINTER 2021/2022

WEATHER ACROSS E UTAH / W COLORADO

March 1st marked the beginning of Meteorological Spring and the conclusion of Meteorological Winter, which was observed from December 1st to February 28th. The 2021-2022 Winter season was generally drier than normal across eastern Utah and western Colorado, with 8 out of 10 automated stations at airports across the area ending the season with below normal precipitation, and the remaining 2 with above normal precipitation. While drought continued to persist thanks to the generally drier than normal conditions, a substantial precipitation event in late December and early January led to improvement across much of the area. By the end of the Winter Season, Extreme (D3) drought was confined to southeast Utah and far southwest Colorado, with central portions of western Colorado having improved to Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions. The Winter Season was either warmer or colder than normal depending on where you were, with 4 of the 10 automated stations ending the season with below normal mean temperatures, and the remaining 6 with above normal mean temperatures. These mean temperatures ranged from 2.5 degrees F below normal to 2.5 degrees F above normal.

WINTER 2021/2022
CLIMATE SUMMARY

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NOTE: all data mentioned is collected from our automated observing stations from 10 airports across the area. Some observers in more remote areas may have measured warmer or colder temperatures, or more or less precipitation than mentioned in this summary.

WINTER 2021/2022 TEMPERATURES

Location	Average Temp (°F) (VS Normal)	Warmest Temp (°F)	Coldest Temp (°F)
Aspen, CO	22.4 (-0.5)	57 on 12/2/21	-13 on 1/1/22
Cortez, CO	31.0 (+1.3)	61 on 2/11/22	0 on 2/4/22
Craig, CO	16.7 (-2.5)	59 on 12/2/21	-25 on 2/3/22, 2/26/22
Durango, CO	27.7 (+1.2)	58 on 12/2/21, 12/5/21	-10 on 1/2/22
Grand Junction, CO	30.5 (+0.1)	59 on 12/14/21	-2 on 1/3/22
Meeker, CO	21.4 (-1.8)	61 on 12/3/21	-16 on 1/2/22
Montrose, CO	30.2 (+0.8)	58 on 2/15/22, 2/20/22	-5 on 1/2/22
Rifle, CO	25.7 (-1.7)	59 on 12/2/21, 12/3/21	-13 on 1/2/22
Canyonlands Airport, UT	31.6 (+1.1)	62 on 2/20/22	5 on 1/3/22
Vernal, UT	25.6 (+2.5)	58 on 2/11/22	-6 on 2/25/22

WINTER 2021/2022 PRECIPITATION

Location	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
Aspen, CO	3.57	+0.80
Cortez, CO	2.80	-0.08
Craig, CO	2.65	-0.05
Durango, CO	3.13	-0.13
Grand Junction, CO	2.69	+0.95
Meeker, CO	2.44	-0.27
Montrose, CO	0.99	-0.30
Rifle, CO	1.47	-0.40
Canyonlands Airport, UT	1.15	-0.24
Vernal, UT	0.86	-0.84

WINTER 2021/2022 CLIMATE SUMMARY

SEASONAL RECORDS REPORT

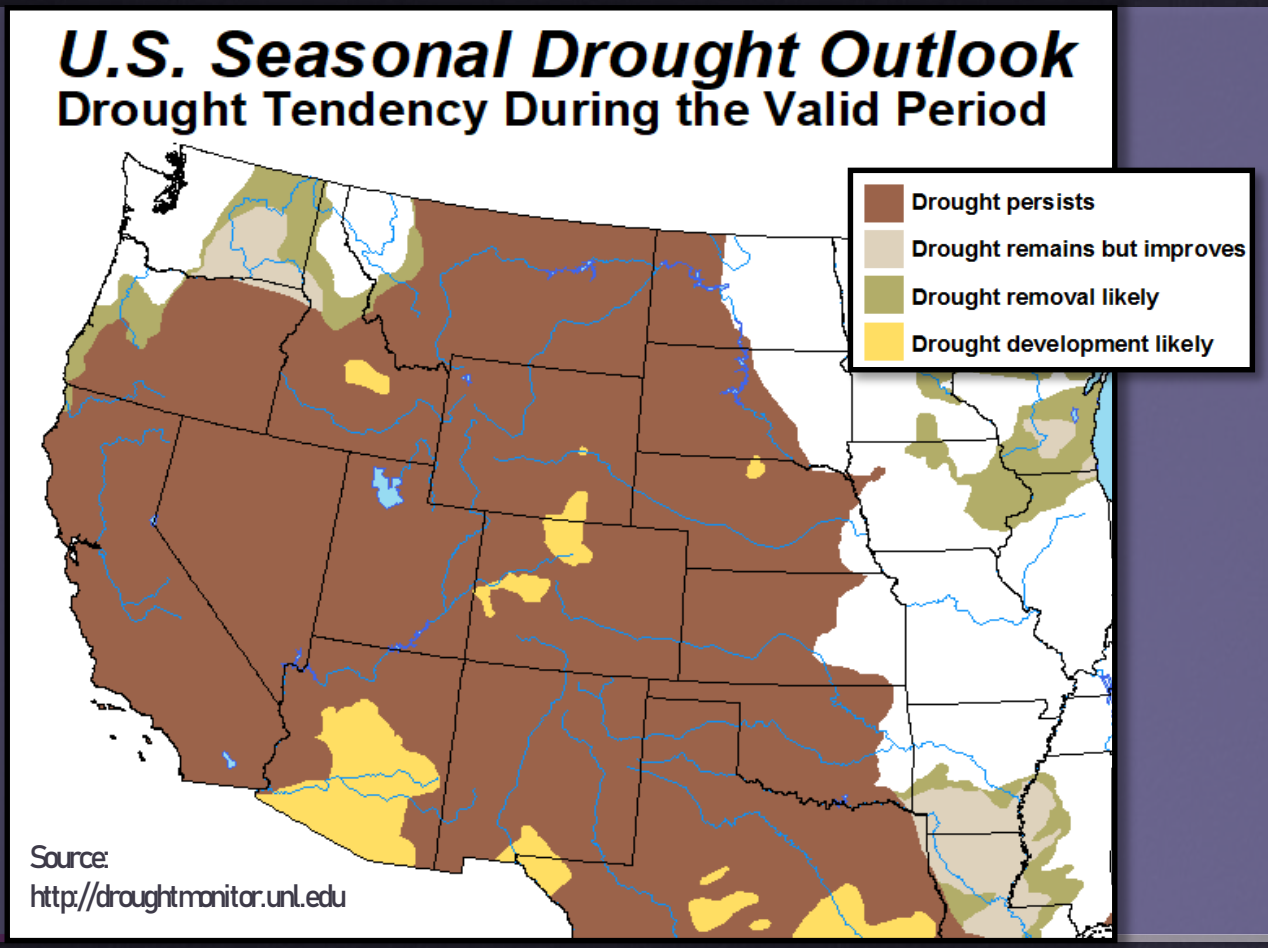
A total of 5 daily records were set across the primary climate sites

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
Grand Junction, CO	December 9th	Daily Rainfall Max	0.57 inches	0.25 inches in 1899
Grand Junction, CO	December 14th	High Max Temperature	59 degrees	57 degrees in 1948
Grand Junction, CO	December 24th	Daily Max Rainfall	0.53 inches	0.27 inches in 1937
Grand Junction, CO	December 31st	Daily Max Rainfall	0.47 inches	0.25 inches in 1915
Grand Junction, CO	February 23rd	Daily Max Rainfall	0.33 inches	0.32 inches in 1906

High Max | Low Max | Precip | High Min | Low Min

SEASONAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK

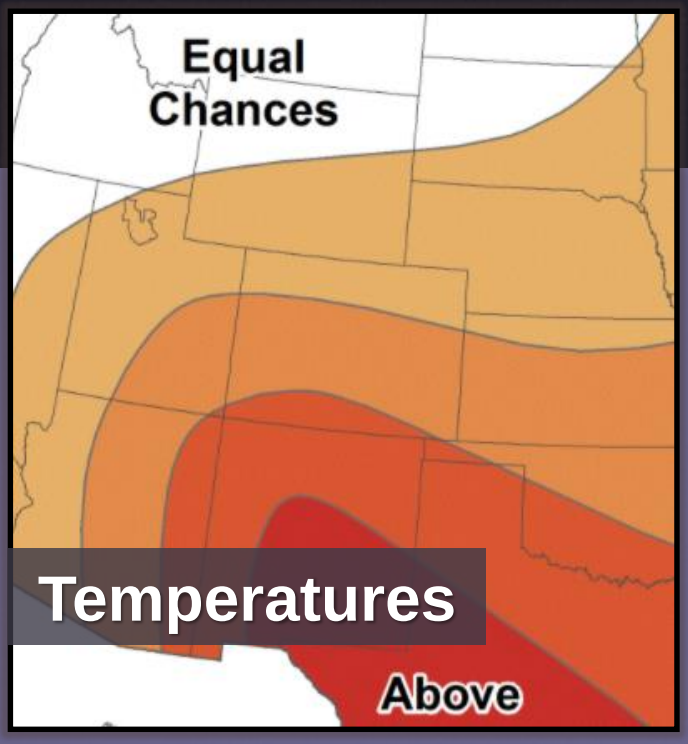
The drought is expected to persist across much of western Colorado and eastern Utah. Areas along the Northern Divide and in central western Colorado where drought improvements have occurred will likely see drought redevelopment occur through Meteorological Spring.

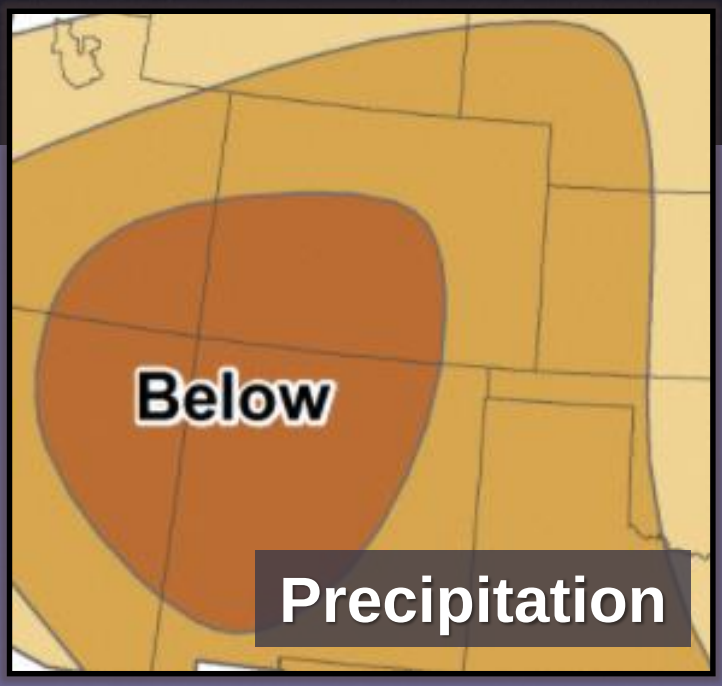


SPRING 2022

OUTLOOK

TEMPERATURES & PRECIPITATION





For Meteorological Spring (March, April, and May), the latest outlook from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) shows odds favoring above normal temperatures for eastern Utah and western Colorado. Additionally, all of eastern Utah and western Colorado are favored to see below normal precipitation for the season.